5 A Day Recipes

Desserts and Snacks

Hummus for Spring Vegetables

Serves 4

Provides 1 vegetable serving per person

Hummus is a Middle Eastern spread that is sometimes served with warm pita bread. It's wonderful with lots of raw vegetables. Here's how it's made: Drain and rinse a can of reduced sodium garbanzo beans and tip into a processor or blender. Add 1 tablespoon tahini (a sesame paste), 2 tablespoons lemon juice, chopped garlic, salt, and a pinch of cayenne pepper. Turn on the machine and pour up to ½ cup of water in, then whiz to create a thick spread. Scrape into a bowl and stir in ¼ cup chopped parsley for a bright, fresh flavor. This is a terrific, fiber-rich dip for carrots, celery, peppers... you name it!

- 1 15½-ounce can reduced sodium garbanzo beans, drained and rinsed
- 1 tablespoon tahini
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- 2 cloves chopped garlic
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- ¼ ½ cup water (no more than ½ cup of water because you want a thick texture)
- pinch cayenne pepper
- ¼ cup chopped parsley
- Place beans in a processor or blender. Add the tahini, lemon juice, garlic, salt, and cayenne. Whiz until smooth.
- Scrape into a bowl and stir in the parsley. Serve with fresh cut up vegetables or as a sandwich spread.

Nutritional Analysis per serving:

Per serving: 123 calories 4 g fat 28% calories from fat 0 g saturated fat 0% calories from saturated fat 17 g carbohydrates 261 mg sodium 5 g dietary fiber